

## Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EA-06 SS-15 SR-02 ORM-01 SCA-01

EUR-12 NSC-05 VO-03 INSE-00 H-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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FOR AMBASSADOR BROWN, INDOCHINA TASK FORCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, ICEM

SUBJECT: INDOCHINA REFUGEES

RECEIVED FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM JOHN THOMAS, DIRECTOR, ICEM.

QUOTE: DEAR DEAN: REGRET MY RAPID TRAVELS DELAYED YOUR REQUEST REACHING ME EARLIER. ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF NON-US RESETTLEMENT MOVEMENTS DIFFICULT TO REACH AT THIS POINT DUE TO (A) CONTINUING INFUX OF REFUGEES, (B) INCOMPLETE REGISTRATION OF REFUGEES AS TO THIRD COUNTRY PREFERENCES, (C) LACK OF FINAL DECISION ON PART MANY COUNTRIES WHO HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN ACCEPTING REFUGEES AS TO NUMBERS, CRITERIA, MODE OF SELECTION AND TRANSPORTATION FINANCING. HOWEVER, CONFIDENT ALL THESE FACTORS ON WAY TO CLARIFICATION AND I REMAIN CONFIDENT NUMBERS WILL BE SIGNIFICANT IN LONG RUN. MY SPECIFIC COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

GUAM. EVERY CREDIT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO GUAM GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, ADMIRAL MORRISON AND OTHERS WHO HAVE COOPERATED SO FULLY IN ESTABLISHING FIRST CLASS

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FACILITIES FOR REFUGEES. CANADA WORKING VERY WELL WITH

480 DEPARTURES AS OF 12 MAY. EXPECT CANADA WILL REACH REPORTED QUOTA OF 800 BY END WEEK. AUSTRALIA INTERVIEWED MORE THAN 50 CASES AND IS EXPECTED TO BE IN FULL SWING WHEN CONFIRMATION OF REPORTED 1500 QUOTA IS RECEIVED FROM CANBERRA. ICEM TEAMS HAVE INTERVIEWED OVER 850 DURING FIRST DAYS OF OPERATIONS WITH MAJOR INTERESTS BEING CANADA, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA THAT ORDER BUT WITH MANY REQUESTS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL. SPECIAL HOLDING CENTER OF 800 SPACES SET UP FOR ICEM TO FACILITATE PROCESSING DETAILS ON 98 PERSONS FOR FRANCE HAVE BEEN SENT TO PARIS VIA ICEM GENEVA AND WE HOPEFUL FRANCE WILL INDICATE ITS INTERESTS SO THAT HUNDREDS MORE CAN BE DOCUMENTED. IN ALL FEEL THAT GUAM NON-US RESETTLEMENT TOTAL WILL REACH 4 TO 5,000.

HONG KONG. THE REGISTRATION INFORMATION ON THE 3,943 PERSONS IN CAMPS SHOW 2,208 INTERESTED IN USA WITH 1,304 HAVING SOME CONNECTIONS IN USA. 1,346 ARE INTERESTED IN CANADA AND THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES ARE INTERVIEWING RAPIDLY ALTHOUGH ONLY 45 MOVED SO FAR. HOWEVER, EXPECT 200 QUOTA TO BE FILLED BY END WEEK. AUSTRALIA HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS NOR DO THE FRENCH ALTHOUGH SOME 699 EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FRANCE. ALL IN ALL 18 COUNTRIES MENTIONED BY REFUGEES IN SURVEY OF RESETTLEMENT PREFERENCES. I ANTICIPATE AT LEAST 1,000 TO 1,500 NON-US RESETTLEMENT FROM HONG KONG. ICEM AND HONG KONG AUTHORITIES ESTABLISHING JOINT REGISTRATION OFFICES TO CONTROL RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING. HONG KONG AUTHORITIES DESERVE GREAT CREDIT FOR ESTABLISHING GOOD CAMPS AND LOSING NO TIME TO DO DETAILED INTERVIEWS THUS FACILITATING WORK OF ALL CONCERNED. INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS PERSONNEL ARRIVED BOTH GUAM AND HONG KONG TO ISSUE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WHERE NEEDED.

BANGKOK. USA WILL SAVE MONEY IF ICEM GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY TO MOVE NEXT 1,200 BY COMMERCIAL CHARTERS. SEE NO REASON MILITARY CANNOT RELEASE TO ICEM CIVILIAN CHARTERS NOW UNDER ITS CONTROL. ALL THE BEST, JOHN F. THOMAS, DIRECTOR, ICEM. END QUOTE. DALE

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